

# Bank Building Eyed as New Home for Bremerton Municipal Court

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The Kitsap Bank building at the corner of Sixth Street and Park Avenue has emerged as a possible future home for the Bremerton Municipal Court. (LARRY STEAGALL | KITSAP SUN)

## BREMERTON —

City officials are again eyeing a possible permanent home for the Bremerton municipal court.

The Kitsap Bank location at the corner of Sixth Street and Park Avenue has emerged as a candidate, Bremerton City Attorney Roger Lubovich said. And though the bank site is not currently for sale, the city and the bank are both conducting appraisals on the approximately 12,000-square-foot building.

“It looks like a good site for us, if everything falls into place,” Lubovich said.

Both Lubovich and Kitsap Bank President and CEO James Carmichael said Tuesday there have been no negotiations nor commitments. Carmichael said Kitsap Bank, which has three locations on Sixth Street — at Warren, Park and Pacific avenues — currently uses its Park location for home loans and other bank operations.

The ongoing saga to find the court a home began in 2002, when voters approved a \$13 million public safety bond to build a new courthouse and police department complex. Most of that money was spent on the police department’s new location on Burwell Street and the Fire Department’s Park Avenue headquarters, with little left for a new court facility.

Lubovich said there’s more than \$1 million left to spend on a new court. But it’s still too early to tell how much the purchase and remodel would cost the city.

The city has considered several locations for the courthouse in the past.

In 2003, it bought the building currently occupied by Kitsap Bank at Sixth and Pacific for \$1.1 million, thinking both the police and court would fit there. But they couldn't both fit and the building was sold in 2005.

A city property at Park and Eighth was also considered, as was the [downtown post office](#) and the current location on the 900 block of Pacific Avenue that the city rents.

Both current Bremerton Municipal Court Judge James Docter and attorney Ed Wolfe, his opponent for re-election this fall, have advocated for a revamped courthouse as soon as possible.

Read more: <http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2009/oct/27/bank-building-eyed-as-new-home-for-bremerton/#ixzz0VG8NhuJ4>